

commercial terms or be used as industrial feedstock for own captive consumption by the importer.

Import of SKO and LPG have been decanalised. However, import of SKO for Public Distribution System and import of LPG for distribution by Public Sector Oil Companies, under the APM continue to be arranged by IOC with the approval of Empowered Standing Committee.

Import of petroleum products not covered in the list of canalised items/restricted items (against SILs) of the EXIM policy can be imported freely. No financial assistance is being given by the Government to oil companies for this purpose.

Natural Gas is not being imported at present.

(d) Petrol, Diesel, A.T.F., LPG, Kerosene, Bitumen, F.O., Naphtha, LSHS are sold by the Government Oil Companies under administered pricing system at prices fixed by Government from time to time. Free trade products like RPC, CPC, CBFS, Lubes, etc. are sold by the companies at prices fixed by themselves.

[English]

Northern Grid

*78. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any high level investigation has been made into the massive failure in the Northern Grid leading heavy load shedding in seven Northern States recently including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Power Ministry has constituted a Committee under the Central Electricity Authority to examine the reasons for frequent disturbances in the grid;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government had also convened a high level meeting of the Chairman of Electricity Grid, Power Board and the NTPC, Power Secretaries and Chairmen of the Northern States;

(f) if so, the main decisions arrived at the meeting;

(g) whether the shortage of power continued throughout the country on a large scale during the last three months; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Power constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Grid & Operation), Central Electricity Authority on 20th December, 1996 to analyse the cause leading to frequent disturbances in the Northern Grid and to suggest remedial measures to avoid recurrence

of such disturbances. Another Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Shri Krishna Swarup former Chairman, CEA was constituted on 4th January, 1997 to enquire into causes of frequent trippings at Dadri complex.

(e) and (f) After the grid disturbance on 20th December, 1996. Secretary (Power) convened a high level review meeting on 22nd December, 1996 to formulate an action plan for preventing recurrence of such incidents. Based on the deliberations, an action plan was formulated, which included the following:

- (i) Free Governor mode of operation to be resorted to on all large generating units for maintaining better frequency regime.
- (ii) All constituent States to follow grid discipline by limiting their drawal to entitlement and ensure operation of the system at the frequency level not below 49.0 Hz.
- (iii) Under frequency relays to be made operational by all State Electricity Boards by June, 1997.
- (iv) Capacitor installation programme to be taken up on a priority basis.
- (v) SEBs to monitor the functioning of existing capacitors.
- (vi) Maintenance activities to be given importance and priority.
- (vii) NTPC and POWERGRID to accord priority for maintenance of equipment.
- (viii) Facilities for start up power in case of black start to be kept in a state of readiness and monitored periodically.
- (ix) POWERGRID to provide bypass arrangement at Vindhyachal HVDC back to back station to facilitate import of power from Western to Northern Region and vice versa in case of grid collapse.
- (g) and (h) The Statewise power supply position during the three month period November, 1996 to January, 1997 is given in the statement-I and II.

Statement-I

State-wise energy shortage in the country during the Three Month period November and December, 1996 and January, 1997

Region/ State/System	Energy Shortage (%)		
	Nov. '96	Dec. '96	Jan. '97
1	2	3	4
NORTHERN REGION:			
Chandigarh	0.0	1.4	0.0
Delhi	1.7	4.0	6.6

1	2	3	4
Haryana	3.1	9.9	22.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.0	5.6	3.5
Jammu & Kashmir	14.6	22.8	22.4
Punjab	0.5	3.2	1.2
Rajasthan	3.5	18.1	20.2
Uttar Pradesh	14.1	16.5	16.1
N.R.	7.0	12.5	14.1
WESTERN REGION:			
Gujarat	8.1	7.7	7.2
Madhya Pradesh	8.7	11.3	15.3
Maharashtra	6.0	6.5	7.0
Goa	0.0	0.0	0.0
W.R.	7.2	8.0	9.3
SOUTHERN REGION:			
Andhra Pradesh	15.3	16.0	17.1
Karnataka	24.3	24.1	25.6
Kerala	19.4	21.9	20.2
Tamil Nadu	11.7	13.1	12.9
S.R.	16.6	17.5	18.0
EASTERN REGION:			
Bihar	24.1	23.6	29.0
DVC	1.8	2.7	3.3
Orissa	2.8	1.0	2.8
West Bengal	5.6	5.6	4.4
E.R.	8.3	7.8	9.1
NORTH-EASTERN REGION:			
Arunachal Pr.	49.6	48.5	46.7
Assam	6.7	12.7	6.5
Manipur	1.5	1.4	11.5
Meghalaya	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	2.0	7.3	26.2
Nagaland	7.0	3.2	20.6
Tripura	22.3	29.6	25.6
N.E.R.	8.5	12.8	11.0
All India	9.8	11.8	13.0

Statement-II

State-wise peaking shortage in the Country During the Three Month period November and December, 1996 and January, 1997

Region/ State/System	Peaking Shortage (%)		
	Nov. '96	Dec. '96	Jan. '97
NORTHERN REGION:			
Chandigarh	0.0	0.0	0.0
Delhi	6.9	2.3	7.0
Haryana	10.1	11.6	15.9
Himachal Pradesh	0.0	0.4	1.9
Jammu & Kashmir	14.1	19.1	17.1
Punjab	3.2	3.3	0.2
Rajasthan	6.6	13.1	10.1
Uttar Pradesh	14.5	25.0	20.0
N.R.	11.3	17.3	16.9
WESTERN REGION:			
Gujarat	18.6	17.9	15.8
Madhya Pradesh	17.2	29.1	27.6
Maharashtra	9.4	9.0	8.7
Goa	0.0	0.0	0.0
W.R.	15.4	17.1	15.7
SOUTHERN REGION:			
Andhra Pradesh	13.0	13.1	14.9
Karnataka	21.0	21.7	26.3
Kerala	21.4	18.6	24.0
Tamil Nadu	9.4	10.7	10.3
S.R.	14.7	15.1	17.4
EASTERN REGION:			
Bihar	42.3	45.2	46.5
DVC	23.4	23.1	18.2
Orissa	14.1	14.2	12.0
West Bengal	10.6	8.9	7.7
E.R.	21.7	19.4	20.3
NORTH-EASTERN REGION:			
Arunachal Pr.	21.6	13.0	13.0
Assam	0.0	8.0	5.5
Manipur	22.9	21.8	25.6
Meghalaya	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	0.0	0.0	4.2
Nagaland	0.0	0.0	7.1
Tripura	11.3	18.3	19.5
N.E.R.	6.0	8.7	8.3
All India	14.8	16.9	17.0